

Project #: B91

Title: Eastern Bering Sea shelf crab and groundfish bottom trawl survey

Principal Investigator(s) and Recipient Organization(s):

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Contract Period and Amount of Funding:

This survey is funded with in-kind money and will play a supporting role from 2008 to 2010 by providing biological and environmental survey data to other PI's being funded by BSIERP.

Report Period:

1 October 2008 through 31 March 2009

Report Date:

30 March 2009

Lead Author of Report:

Robert Lauth

Proposed timeline and milestones within report period:

- Plan for the Summer 2009 eastern Bering Sea shelf groundfish and invertebrate bottom trawl survey; 2009

Project Summary: The Alaska Fisheries Science Center conducts annual bottom (benthic) trawl surveys to monitor the condition of the eastern Bering Sea continental shelf epi-benthos. This survey is funded with in-kind money and will support BEST-BSIERP by providing biological and environmental survey data to other PIs in the program.

Progress Summary: Milestones for this period were met; planning for the survey was initiated in January and will be completed by May. The FV *Arcturus* and *Aldebaran* will be chartered from 28 May and 31 July to complete the standard survey of the eastern Bering Sea shelf. Data collections will include biological sampling of fish and invertebrates as well as collection of a synoptic environmental dataset that included profiles of light intensity, water temperature, and salinity for each trawl station as well as underway surface temperature, salinity, nitrate, chlorophyll and dissolved oxygen measurements.

Lessons learned and project adjustments: Not applicable

Integration activity:

Physical and biological data and results were provided to the following BSIERP projects:

1. B62 Fish forage distribution and ocean conditions
2. B68 Retrospective analysis of patterns in productivity of fish, seabirds, and marine mammals in the eastern Bering Sea ecosystem
3. B60 Pollock and cod distribution
4. B61 Fish Functional foraging response

Education and Outreach: Not applicable

Next year's Work plan: At the end of your progress report, please update your work plan for the coming year. In particular, add detail for 2009. Contact Mike Sigler if you have any questions in regards to your work plan. Follow this template:

BSIERP B91, Eastern Bering Sea shelf crab and groundfish bottom trawl survey, Robert Lauth,
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2009-2012 Tasks, Assignments, Timeline

| <i>What</i> | <i>Who</i> | <i>Start (2009)</i> | <i>Other key dates</i> |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Plan 2009 Summer survey, including liaison with BSIERP data group | Lauth, Robert | January 2009 | Complete planning during May |
| 2009 eastern Bering Sea continental shelf crab and groundfish bottom trawl survey | Lauth, Robert | May-July 2009 | |
| Plan 2010 Summer survey, including liaison with BSIERP data group | Lauth, Robert | January 2010 | |
| 2010 eastern Bering Sea continental shelf crab and groundfish bottom trawl survey | Lauth, Robert | May-July 2010 | |
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